

TAB

~~SECRET~~
~~Security Information~~

OIC Planning Book
18 December 1952

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

WATCH COMMITTEE

1. The effectiveness of the Watch Committee continues to be a matter of concern to OCI specifically and to the IAC generally. Since the last Status Report of OIC was written, this office has sought informally to bring itself up to date on current procedures of and reactions to the Committee, particularly in the light of the studies conducted in early 1951. These studies pointed up certain weaknesses in Watch Committee operation, and culminated in a memorandum to the DCI of 18 April 1951, which recommended that OIC and OCI discuss specific committee objectives with General Weckerling. Subsequent discussions of this type, and more especially discussions initiated by the DD/I in April and May of 1952, appear to have produced a more satisfactory method of operation. At least this would appear to be the case based on the rather limited observations provided by a visit by a member of this office to the 124th meeting of the Committee on 17 December and informal conversations with members of OCI and G-2 concerned with the Committee.

2. The Watch Committee meeting of 17 December (which was said to be typical of those held since General Willems assumed the Chair) was significantly different from criticized meetings in 1951 and early 1952 in the following respects:

a. The meeting began promptly at 10:00 and terminated promptly at noon.

b. An agenda (termed a "check list") was available and was followed.

c. No more than thirty minutes was spent on any of the four areas treated (Korea-Soviet Far East-China-Japan; Southeast Asia; Eastern Europe; USSR). An informative Air Force roundup on the development of Soviet air facilities in East Germany occupied the first 35 minutes of discussion and adequately tied together matters which had apparently concerned the Committee over several previous meetings.

d. Full and free interchange of questions, comments, and discussions was permitted by the Chair, but closely controlled in the interest of time and pertinence.

25X1A9a

3. The contributions of State (Mr. Klosson) and CIA were pointed and fully accepted.

4. Air, Navy, and Ground Force contributions were short and to the